

AUGUST 1949

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Cariboo *and* Northwest DIGEST

Covering

Fraser Canyon

Bridge River

Cariboo

Central B. C.

Peace River

Alaska Highway

and the

Yukon

*Issued
Monthly*

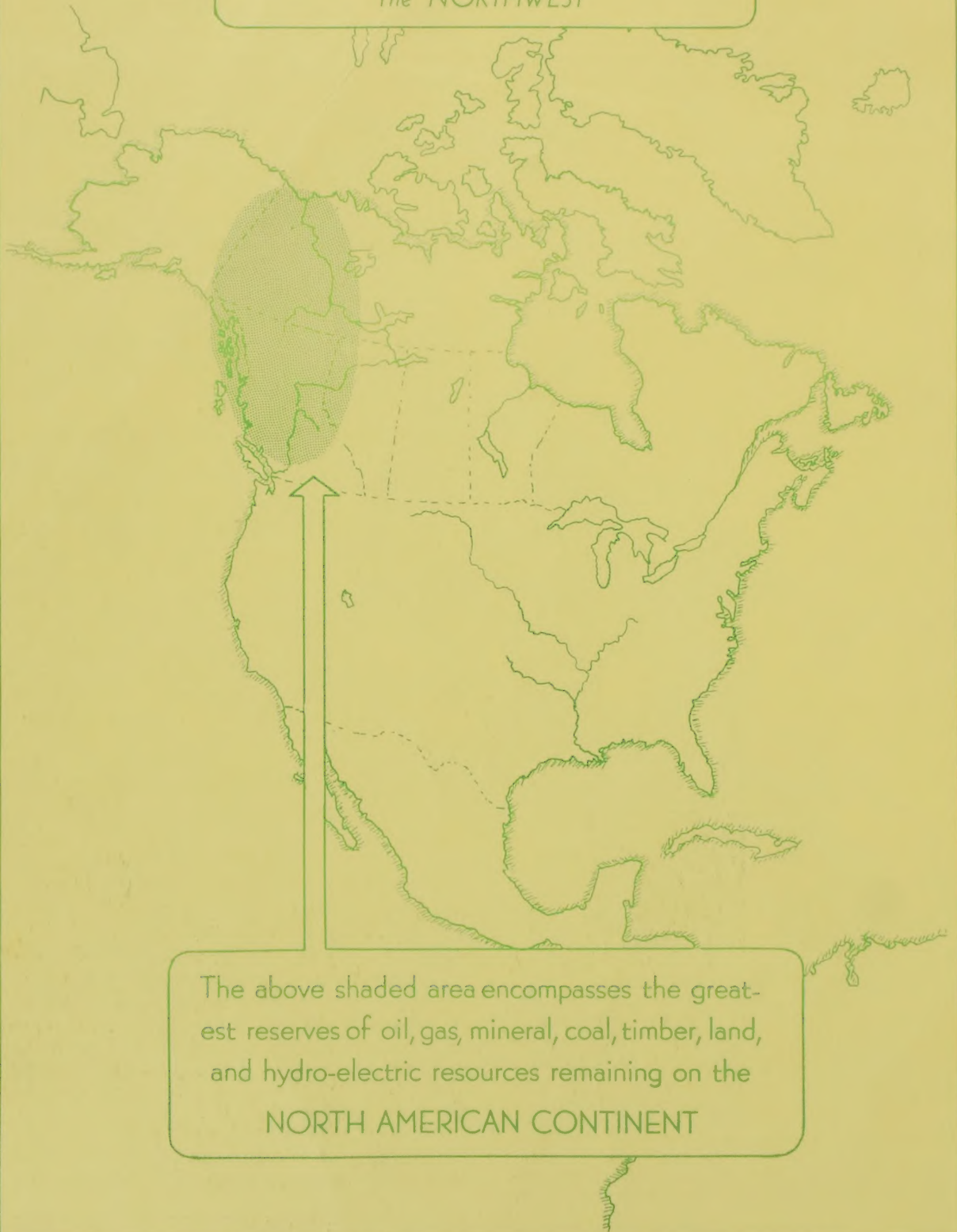


1948 Fort St. James Fish Derby winner-see page 20

CARIBOO & NORTHWEST DIGEST

- COVERS -

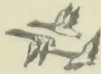
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Cariboo & Northwest

DIGEST



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Editorial

by **J. A. Fraser**

The Changing Political Scene

We have now safely passed the two elections in this eventful year. First on the program, the Provincial Election, in which the Coalition made a handsome win to reduce the following of the C.C.F. to a mere handful. This should surely indicate that the majority of the voters in B.C. are more interested in "free enterprise" than they are in the philosophies of socialism.

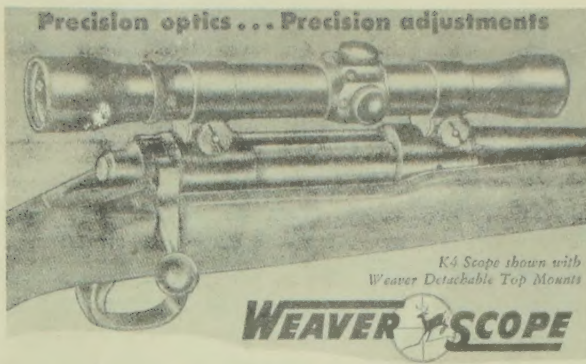
The program of development outlined by the Premier evidently appealed to the majority of the voters, and there should be no doubt that the Premier was sincere in his outline of Policies and will do everything in his power to implemnt the policies and programs he has outlined. In this effort he will have the best wishes for his success in implementing his main program. That it will be an onerous undertaking there can be no doubt, and all will hope that no impossible hurdles will confront him in his efforts to further the advancement of the Province.

During the campaign there was noticable a distinctly cynical attitude regarding the sincerity of his forward looking policies embracing every section of the Province, which does not seem tome to be justifiable. His comprehensive review of the need of aggressive and forward looking policies seem to me to be entirely justified by current events, and his vigorous campaign in support of these policies amply justifies all sections of the Province in wishing him every success in a full realization of his comprehensive program.

Let us all fervently hope that he will be able to enlist the fullest measure of support which his program deserves from Ottawa.

The Contractors now on the ground here for the first unit of construction of the P.G.E, extension to Prince George should surely convince all skeptics that his statements in this regard were no idle election promises. paign was the election to the Legislature of a native born Indian to represent Atlin and it is sincerely to be hoped that he may be able to improve the conditions of his compatriots in the Province. While the Indians are the wards of the Federal Government there may be useful fields where he can serve his compatriots in the Provincial field.

The phenominal sweep of the Liberals in the Federal field should give the Opposition ample room "furiously to think". In so general a



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EDITORIAL - concluded

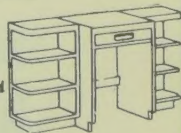
sweep, undoubtedly there are many and varying reasons for the inclination to favor one party or the other, but one thing seems fairly obvious and that is that the country as a whole has not accepted the policies and tactics of the Conservative party. The result of the election will certainly call for a most thorough and complete analysis of the cause of the defeat as well as a thorough and complete overhaul of the fundamental policies of the Progressive Conservative party. The defeat of as capable a Parliamentarian as Mr. H.H.Stevens in Vancouver centre can hardly be laid at the door of Mr. Stevens himself. Undoubtedly there are defects in the general policy of the party that is to some extent responsible for this result. Then again there is astonishment in the defeat of Cecil Merritt, a veteran of world war 2, winner of the Victoria Cross, as well as having given a good account of himself in the last Parliament. Surely a defeat of that kind cannot be laid at the door of the Candidate with such a record.

A very thorough analysis of all the causes of such a disastrous defeat should be undertaken at the earliest possible moment if the Conservative party is going to continue to fulfill its proper place in the political future of the country

With regard to the C.C.F. it seems to be amply demonstrated that the Socialistic principles it advocates are of no interest to the Canadian people and the sooner it is completely interred in the graveyard of past and gone political parties the more stability will be given to the leading parties of the country in which the great majority of Canadians believe. It may also be that their elimination as a party in the future will tend to arrest a perceivable tendency of a more or less socialistic nature in policies and statutes.

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In The Cariboo

by HAZEL ANDERSON

What progress has been made in developing the arts in Cariboo and Northwestern B.C. during the past few years? Not many years ago in southern art circles the Northwest was considered as 'backwoodsy' with little or nothing of merit to contribute to an exhibit held in the south - and far too few painters and too little public interest to stage an exhibition of its very own, least of all one that would attract 'outside' attention. But that is what DID happen. How did it come about? A simple question, but the answer is not so simple.

Perhaps the answer lies in Van Loon's sage observation that "culture comes only after the hard work of pioneering is done and there is time, leisure and money to devote to the development of the arts. . . "Apparently in Cariboo and Northwestern B.C. the pioneering has already been done, and the country is entering into a secondary stage of development and growth. The log cabin stage is over, supplanted by a period wherein, despite the hustle and bustle, people everywhere are taking time out to devote to the arts, particularly painting - as a form of self-expression,

I am speaking of the evidence set before our eyes during the recent Art Exhibit held on June 7th and 8th of this year at Quesnel, B.C. What does this exhibition mean? It means that an appreciation of art is rapidly growing and spreading throughout this bountiful north country. It means that those few artists and interested people who began the Cariboo Art Society of Williams Lake, B.C., and the Quesnel Arts (of Quesnel, B.C.) such a short time ago, have spread their enthusiasm throughout Northwestern B.C. They have felt the glow of pride and accomplishment that comes from the response of others. Many small art groups have been formed out of the contagious spirit of these two endeavors.

By dint of hard work, reams of correspondence, and a sincere belief that the rest of B.C. should be interested to know that the north-country was at last outgrowing the ox-cart stage, Quesnel Arts proudly displayed its second annual exhibit - officially (and fittingly) opened by (mayor) H.J. Gardner, of Quesnel, pioneer resident of Cariboo, who little thought as a youth back in 1904 as he trekked the 500



Indian Summer - (oil on prepared board)
by Jean Ness Findlay, Massett, B.C.



The Ranch Yard - by Sonia Cornwall, Onward Ranch



Float Murals - by Reba Lewis, Quesnel, B.C.

miles from Barkerville to Manson Creek on foot with nothing but his wits, a .22 rifle and a bag of salt to sustain him, that he one day officiate at such an opening ceremony.

Once again, as in the first exhibition, paintings and sketches in all media poured in from all over the Cariboo and the Northwest. Outside this region there were contributions from Lillooet and Revelstoke. The highlight was the arrival of three originals by Lawren Harris, one of Canada's great painters. Along with his own works Mr. Harris sent in three sketches by Dr. A.Y. Jackson, noted Canadian artist.

Shortly after these outstanding works came three more originals by Dr. Jackson, who at that time was a guest at the Onward Ranch near Williams Lake, home of the Cariboo Art Society who claim him as their honorary president. Quesnel Arts, not to be outdone, have bestowed their own similar title on Lawren Harris.

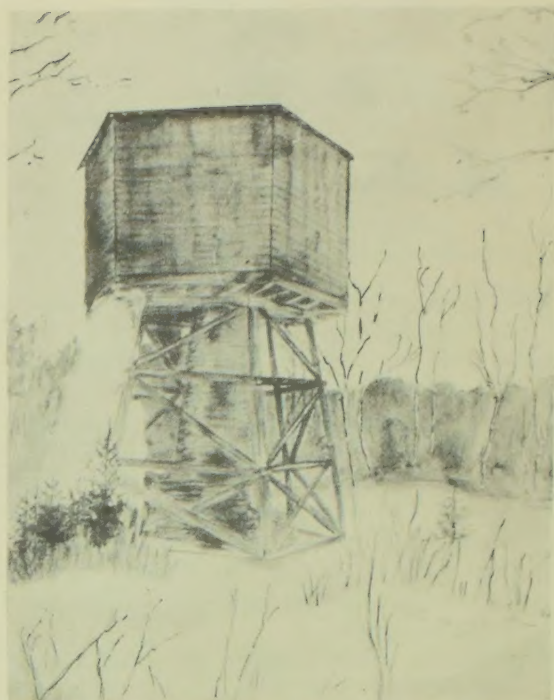
Lilias Newton, that master painter of portraits loaned a beautiful work depicting an Indian lad. Excitement ran high, as this was the first time that paintings by such great artists had ever hung in Quesnel, ample evidence that they were interested in stimulating the growing interest in art in the northcountry. Through correspondence with the West Vancouver Sketch Club, Mrs. Reba Lewis, president and founder of Quesnel Arts, touched off a chain of enthusiastic response from the former's president, Mrs. Eileen Laurie, C.B.C. pianist newspaper woman and painter.

From her, Mrs. Ellen Harris, popular C.B.C. commentator, also caught the glow, and both of them determined to see for themselves just what the north country was producing.

Mrs. Laurie brought with her the library exhibit of the West Vancouver Sketch Club, which was shown in conjunction with the Quesnel Arts exhibit. An exquisite collection of pottery done by Mrs. M.I. Stephenson and Mrs. R.E. Ross (both of the West Vanc. Sketch Club) was yet another feature.

Mrs. Harris enroute to the Williams Lake Stampede, stopped off in Quesnel to pick up the story unfolding there and later sent it far and wide over the C.B.C. She emphasized the friendships that had been formed between the North and South. This was the first chapter of a story - and in the future - anything may happen.

Behind us is the pioneering era. The north country is now in a period of transition into an era in which the arts will play an increasingly greater part in our daily lives. Modern building aims reflect this trend. Throughout the north new buildings are definitely being designed not only for structural stability and utility

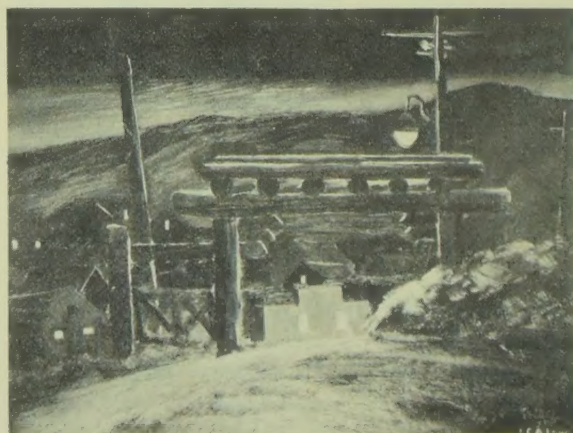


'Pride Goeth....' - The old water tower at Quesnel the day before it was torn down.

by Helen Mills, Quesnel, B.C.



Williams Lake - by J. Long (Wms. Lake, B.C.)



Twilight Arch - (Wms. Lake Hospital entrance.

by J. Long



The Mat Weaver - by Jean Ness Findlay



Winter Scene - by Helen Mills, Quesnel, B.C.



Members of the Quesnel and Williams Lake groups meet for an afternoon outing.



The Old Town Hall of Kulkayu - (oil on canvass)
by Jean Ness Findlay, Masset, B.C.

but with an eye for balance and beauty of line. There is no reason to believe that interest in music, sculpture, drama and other cultural pursuits will not follow in the wake of the growing interest in painting.

Think of Prince George one day having a symphony orchestra! Conceivable? Certainly. Already Quesnel is the home of a man who's compositions have been played by the Hollywood Bowl Symphony and other noted orchestras, and who is devoting all his spare time to training local musicians to respond to his baton. While at Prince George there lives a composer who's works have been likened to those of the masters.

Anything is due to happen as the long-dormant artistic sense gradually awakens, and to illustrate just how fast these things do happen.....Four ladies from Prince George

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Portrait of an Indian Woman - by Reba Lewis



Tent Scene - by Reba Lewis

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Baker Creek Bridge

by Henry Seimens, Quesnel, B.C.

journeyed to Quesnel to see the art exhibit. They were so enthused by what they saw that there and then they called a meeting amongst themselves and elected officers for the new Prince George Art Society.

When speaking of the exhibit she had travelled over 400 miles to see, Mrs. Laurie said she was amazed at the QUALITY of the work. This part of the country has not the advantage of a close-at-hand art gallery, nor has it art schools where those interested may study. Painting, with the exception of those who have studied at schools in other parts of Canada or the U.S., is therefore self-taught.

With what training there is among the art groups in the Cariboo and the Northwest, plus the individual talent and imagination of the members - some very fine work was shown at the recent exhibit. And there is every reason to believe that the next few years will see some noteworthy canvasses produced in the north -



The author - sketching

EDITOR'S NOTE: The black and white reproduction of the illustrations accompanying this article do not do them justice, but we trust that the reader will gain from them a fair idea of what is being accomplished in the northwest.

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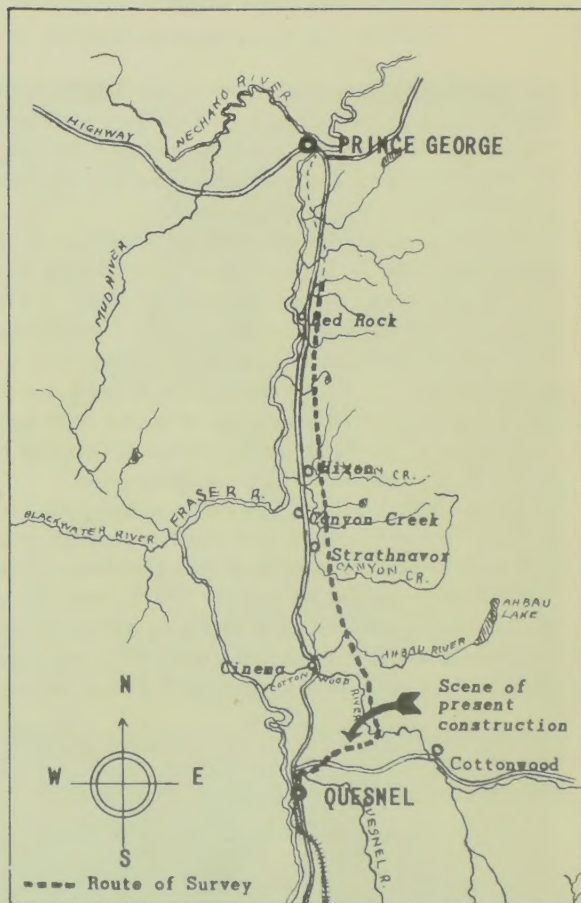
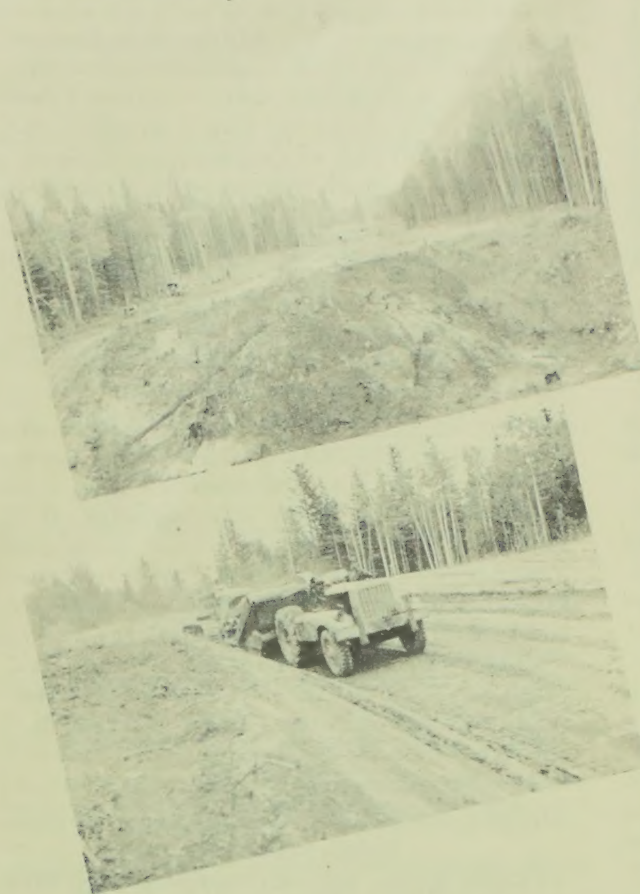
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P. G. E. Constuction Underway



For years B.C.'s own railroad, the P.G.E., has been variously referred to as 'British Columbia's White Elephant', the 'Please Go Easy', the 'Railroad that begins nowhere and ends nowhere', and so on....

The disparaging references seemed justified. In the 30-odd years it has been in operation, no attempt has been made to directly connect the rails at either end with the trans-continental lines to the north or south. As a result of this failure, the railway has lost money continually, and has cost the people of B.C. up to the present time more than \$120,000,000.00, of which sum approximately two-thirds represents an operating deficit.

For years elections have been won on promises to complete the railway into the resource-rich north country - and succeeding ones lost by failure to carry out such promises.

Today, the story is a different one.....an election promise to complete the railway into Prince George is being carried out, and the past poor record will soon be ancient history.

Less than one month after the provincial





photos by
J. WALKER, Quesnel, B.C.



election, the contract for clearing and grading the first 14 miles north of Quesnel had been let to the Campbell-Bennett Construction Company for the sum of \$634,029.00 and heavy equipment began rolling through Quesnel to the scene of operations. Two weeks later a base camp capable of accommodating 50 men had been established near Quesnel, and nearly two miles of clearing and rough-grading were all but completed at a point near the centre section of the 14 mile stretch slated (by contract) for completion by Dec. 31st. From this point work will proceed northwards towards the Cottonwood River and south towards Quesnel.

Equipment in use at the present time consists of six W-10 scrapers, three bulldozers, one shovel and drag-line plus a quantity of lesser equipment. In order to speed up the job company officials are considering enlarging the capacity of the camp to house 100 men, and running two shifts until such time as the bad weather sets in. If this is done, the work should be completed well before the time limit.

In the meantime, under the direction of P.G. E. chief engineer J.M. Stewart, and assistant chief engineer C.R. Crysdale, survey work between Cottonwood River and Canyon Creek (40 miles north of Quesnel) has all but been completed, including the location of various town-sites, and tenders are being called for the clearing and rough-grading of the 16 mile section north of the Cottonwood River.

Photos on these pages show the Campbell-Bennett camp located near the Quesnel airport, and the work in progress on the two mile section indicated on the map.

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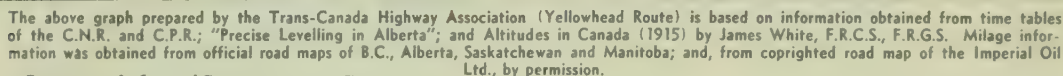


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"The proposition of the federal government to build the Trans-Canada on a 50-50 basis would be of little value to this province as under the proposed standard to be adopted for the prairies, calling for a 200 foot right-of way with a grade having a 44-foot top, it would cost approximately \$18 million dollars to complete the section lying in Saskatchewan and on a



50-50 basis \$9 million for Saskatchewan's share. When you consider that we could build a hard surfaced road across this province that would be suitable for our requirements for approximately \$8 million, it will be realized that a proposition calling on us to match federal grants on a 50-50 basis, and to complete this road in five years would cripple our road building program in other parts of Saskatchewan for that five-year period."

Cost of a Trans-Canada Highway has been estimated at \$266 million divided among the various provinces as follows:

British Columbia, \$40 million; Alberta, \$13 million; Saskatchewan, \$18 million; Manitoba, \$17 million; Ontario, \$103 Million; Quebec, \$27 million; New Brunswick, \$7 million; Nova Scotia, \$36.5 million; and Prince Edward Island, \$4.7 million.

The other western provinces face a situation similar to Saskatchewan's. Monies that might be spent for other roads would have to be concentrated on one single route to bring it up to a higher standard.

THREE ALBERTA ROUTES

Premier Manning, of Alberta, has pointed out that Alberta must be served ultimately with three east-west routes across the provinces. What's the difference, he says, if we can get them (the federal government) to help us build one and then do the others ourselves?

Alberta plans to have its present southern-provincial route fully completed by the spring of 1951, but it now faces the necessity of building roads in the north to meet the requirements of oil companies which are there making many new oil discoveries.

British Columbia is continuing construction and reconstruction projects along its southern Trans-provincial highway via the Crows Nest Pass. The region this highway traverses in B.C. is the province's most densely populated, but the government is also spending great sums of money on highway and railway construction in the north where it anticipates extensive industrial development in the immediate future.

Hon. E.C. Carson, B.C.'s minister of public works, estimates that the southern route through the province will be completed by 1953.

TO COMPLETE SOUTHERN ROUTE

As both B.C. and Alberta, therefore, plan to complete the southern route regardless of what aid is forthcoming from the Canadian government, it would seem feasible for them

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to seek aid for completion of either the central or northern routes. This would appear to be a sound plan both economically and politically. For what difference would it make which route was completed with federal assistance and which was called "The" Trans-Canada Highway if the Western provinces got the main highways they need to best serve their people?

Besides the southern trans-provincial highway, British Columbia is interested in two other routes. One is from Vancouver via the Fraser Canyon and Big Bens Highway and on to the Alberta border. It would join up with the highway in Alberta which connects with Calgary via the Kicking Horse Pass. Another route is Vancouver through Kamloops and up the North Thompson River to the Alberta border. This route would join up with the Alberta highway to Edmonton via the Yellowhead Pass.

Although the Canadian government has told the provinces that it would contribute to only one Trans-Canada Highway, Mr. Carson feels that a single highway across the province would be of little use without branch roads. His department's present plan is to improve all the vitally-needed industrial roads throughout the province.

While agreements between the federal and provincial governments remain in abeyance, proponents of different routes intensify their campaigns.

COMMISSION SUGGESTED

Latest action taken by the Trans-Canada Highway System Association (Yellowhead or Northern route) was to propose to a committee of the federal cabinet that a Royal Commission be appointed to make recommendations on the route. A delegation of this organization told the committee the highway was a federal obligation and that the Canadian Government should not refuse to accept a share of responsibility in selecting a route.

Said the association in its brief: "We take the position that the primary responsibility rests upon the federal government, which must be the biggest contributor and that the federal government should not and cannot avoid this responsibility."

The cabinet committee was composed of Reconstruction Minister Robert Winters, chairman; Fisheries Minister Robert Mayhew, Justice Minister Stuart Garson, Finance Minister Douglas Abbott, and the Hon. J.A. MacKinnon, minister without portfolio.

The association delegation was headed by Bruce Smith, of Edmonton.

Comparing the Yellowhead route with the Kicking Horse route, the brief pointed out the highest elevation in the form was 3,717' as com-

pared with 5,337' in the latter. The Yellow-head route had the least snowfall of any of the three routes, construction costs would be less in the northern route and maintenance would be less expensive. Also the northern route would serve the greatest percentage of the population of the four provinces concerned.

The delegation declared that the Yellowhead route was, indeed, the central route, that its military advantages seemed obvious, that it served four national and five provincial parks and that it served large agricultural areas which were well covered with tree growth.

On the other hand, they declared, the Kicking Horse route ran through the Palliser Triangle and was subject to drought, winds and dust.

Meanwhile the Southern Trans-Canada Highway Association continues to stress the advantages of the southern or Crow's Nest Pass route. President E.R. McFarland recently announced in Lethbridge six points being stressed which favor the Crow's Nest Pass route:

(1) It serves five times the population of any other route through British Columbia.

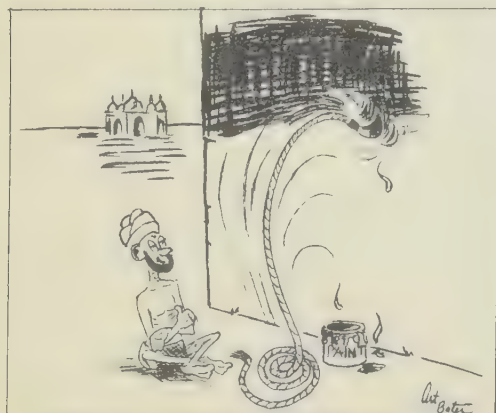
(2) It traverses the largest industrial area in the Interior of British Columbia, making the route of paramount importance in times of peace and war.

(3) It is the easiest and least costly route to keep open during the winter months.

(4) It will be more effective in attracting U. S. dollars into Canada and at the same time will help keep more Canadian dollars at home.

(5) It does not necessitate commercial vehicles passing through national parks and thus does not involve the necessity of operators of these to have to secure special permits or of all highway travellers to pay national park tolls.

(6) It lends itself as the only practical route for the benefit of the greatest number of people, and owing to its proximity to the international border acts as a feeder service, thus developing a highway system serving all Canada.



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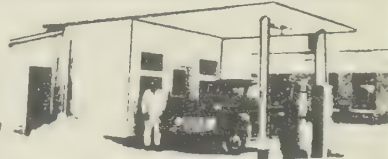


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The Ghosts of Cassiar

WERE NON-EXISTENT - BUT THE OLD PROSPECTOR SPENT A LIVELY NIGHT BEING ENTERTAINED BY THE 'NOISE THAT MADE ITSELF'

by W. BJORKMAN, Perow, B.C.



The old prospector stuffed his pipe. The small gathering had spoken of ghosts and spooks. Each had voiced an opinion either one way or the other. Now it was his turn. 'Wal now, I've heard of 'em all right. But never met none. Reminds me of the summer I spent in the Cassiar. As I was heading out in the fall, I come on a small Indian village. They was all up in the air about a graveyard whar ghosts was said to live. I coulda died laughin'- everyone these days knows there's no such animal. They seemed to get peeved so I listened to 'em even if I knew better. I even asked where the haunted boneyard was, to be polite. It was located about six miles west of of the village. Only bad people were buried in it I was told, and they forgot to stop being bad when they died. Habits are hard to break, of course. But usually even the habits that come plumb natural, like bein' bad, an' that have been cultivated through a lifetime, stop at death. So I only listened, asked a few questions an' busted out laughin' once in a while.

Usually if you laugh at an Indian he clams up. But I guess they was plumb unreasonable about that boneyard. One Injun bet me ten bucks I would not sleep in that place all night. I'd either die of fright or come tearin' out with my hair standin' on end. Wal she was mid-afternoon, an' the boneyard was six miles outa my way. But I hadn't had much luck prospectin' that year, so ten bucks looked pretty swell, especially for nothin' but the walk to the graveyard. So I accepted the offer.

The boneyard was on an open sidehill facin' east. There were trees all about it. The road to it was one I saw wasn't used much. Whenever a bad Injun died, he was buried in the daytime in plenty of time to get out before the sun set. Wal, I got there early enough, An' looked about for a suitable campin' place. I'm a mite fussy

thataway, so I looked about careful for one. There was a very nice clump of trees in the northwest corner of the boneyard. Also it was the highest corner there, you could see the whole place from it. No ghost could sneak through on a clear night without bein' seen by a keen watcher stationed in that clump of trees. An' if it was a rainy night no one need fear gettin' wet in there. So I headed for that clump of trees. Found a nice little spring there too, an' bein' located above the graves wouldn't be polluted either.

The graveyard was common enough. Some of the graves were plainly very old, an' since Injuns use a lot of wood in the graves, when it rots up there's only a hollow to show where the grave had been. Others were newer. I couldn't help but think that if some of the guys in the oldest graves hadn't forgot to be bad yet, the chances of them ever quittin' were poor indeed.

Howbe, the sun was slidin' behind the western mountains when I got there. Also, it was goin' to be a clear moonlit night, chill with heavy autumn frost. So I hurried up an' made camp, then cooked grub. As I was eatin' I idly wondered what a ghost was supposed to look like. I've heard lots of folks talk about spooks but no one ever described one. I wondered about that for awhile, until my keen brain brought the solution. How could anyone describe a ghost. 'Nothin', don't look like anythin'.

After I'd et, I lit my pipe an' lay back to enjoy thinkin' of how easy I made that ten - - also on how plumb foolish folks are who believe in ghosts. By now the sun had set, but the full moon shone as bright as day. I filled my for makin'

coffee an' put some on to boil, cause I like a bit of it before turnin' in. That's because a drunk Swede's shadow fell on my

mother just a few days before I was born - I get the hankerin' from that. I got the hankerin' for likker from my associations with Scots an' Irishmen. Also, I'm plumb hard to convince - that's 'cause I looked crossways at a Yankee once. Nature shore is funny.

As I sat there thinkin', I heard a funny noise - a sort of peculiar sound I can't describe or imitate. It had rythm like music. I never heard the likes of it. At once my keen mind found the solution. Usually noise is made by 'something'. A person talks, or a wolf whines, or a tree crashes. At least 'something' makes the noise, even if it's only musical instruments. But this noise was makin' itself. I never knew before that noise could do it, but it can, an' when it does it sure sounds funny. Although it wasn't pretty to hear, I still enjoyed it 'cause it was so unusual to hear sound make itself. The ground also quaked a bit in rythm to the noise.

Then the bones began to come up outa the graves. Just plain bones - skeletons. They sorta shook themselves up outa the ground an' lay there rattlin' awhile to the rythm of the noise. But after awhile they stood up. Shore looked funny to see skeletons standin' up-right. I had a notion to shoot off the spines just to see what would happen, but didn't have any shells to spare, so I didn't. After a bit the bones began to dance. I guess it was the vibrations from the noise that done it. The bones sure rattled when they danced. I'd never seen bones up an' dance before - didn't think it were possible, even to the tune o' noise makin' itself. It was an entirely new experience which I sure enjoyed. I was sure gettin' that ten easy - was havin' fun gettin' it. The bones actually took partners, put their arms around each other, an' danced. Some even carried on a mite disgraceful. They'd put their skulls together an' kiss, which made a sort of grinding raspy sound.

But bones don't stick together very good. A less intelligent observer would have been so interested he'd have forgot to watch for details, or seein' them, woulda failed cool-like to calculate the underlyin' causes. I was alert but my cool mind functioned anyhow. I know bones don't stick together 'cause there was one skeleton showin' off by dancin' a high-falutin' jig.

falutin' jig. He swung his legs a mite too cocky an' one of them fell off. When that happened the skeleton collapsed with a loud clatter an' fell apart, kinda spreadin' out over the real estate. But bones have it all over us in many ways. If any of us lost a leg an' fell apart like that we'd be finished, but the skeleton just put itself back together an' began dancin', even

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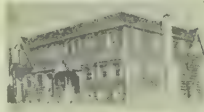


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faster than before.

One tall skinny column of bones laughed a tooth-rattlin' laugh at the one that had fell apart. That seemed to make the squat one mad. Why, the way them bones carried on to the vibrations of the noise, you'd think they was still alive. Maybe the squat one that fell apart had been quick tempered when he was alive, anyhow he made a leap at the tall one an' swung an uppercut that knocked the tall one's block plumb offa him. You often hear live people say they'll knock the block off'n someone, but they never do. But the squat skeleton actually done it to the tall one. The block flew about fifteen feet an' when it landed the jaw fell outa it. I expected the tall one to put his head back on again, but it seemed he was stumped. He didn't have any sense of balance any more, an' he acted as if he couldn't see. He'd trip and bump into other bones an' gropin' around with his arms stretched out in front of 'im like a man in the dark would do. That was peculiar. I couldn't figure it out, but then I'm a mite rusty on my mathematics. Naturally skulls have no eyes in them, but the skeletons acted as though they could see with the empty holes where the eyes had been. The fellow was in right bad shape - the skull could see the rest of the skeleton, but the rest of 'im couldn't see the skull.

At last another skeleton took pity on him, picked up the skull an' jaw, put 'em together an' stuck 'em back on top of the owner. It was then I figured that they even had memories. Maybe the tall one had been a sort of revengeful brute when alive. Anyway he acted just as if he was mad at havin' his block knocked off. He tied into the squat one an' they boxed an' rassled. It was a comical match to see. They'd often knock each other's blocks off, but now they'd reach out quick-like, as if they expected it, an' catch 'em before they landed or got outa reach an' stick 'em back on. But at last all their ribs fell off. That made 'em quit before I'd found who'd won. The squat one had a heftier blow





but the tall one had a longer reach, so I don't know who'd have won. But when their ribs fell off they quit an' began pickin' 'em an' tryin' 'em on for size, bein' as how the ribs were all mixed in a heap on the ground. I laughed. When they stuck one on, they'd raise the arm it was under, twist their heads around an' down under, twist their heads around an' look down for all the world like a woman primpin' afore a mirror tryin' on a new dress or blouse.

When they finally had 'em all on I hollered over an' asked 'em if they wanted some coffee for it was now cooked. I didn't have any more than I wanted for myself, but I felt safe in askin' 'em - for two reasons. First, since they was only actin' on vibrations they'd not be likely to hear an invitation - second and best reason was that even if they did hear an' accept they couldn't hold coffee even if they did drink it - it'd all spill out, an' they weren't fools.

My invitation spoiled the show. They all turned my way just as if they'd heard it, an' stared at me kinda' empty-like. Then they tapped their skulls with their long bony finger tips which made a rattlin' empty sound. An' then all at once they threw their arms in the air - an' believe me they threw 'em high. While I was watchin', the fingers an' arm bones fly apart up in the air, kinda' outlined by the moon - the noise that made itself stopped, an' when I looked down followin' the arc of one hand that somehow hadn't come apart, the clearin' was empty. The skeletons had dissappeared, sunk back into their graves I guess, cause when the the arm bones landed they didn't thud or make any noise, but just seemed to melt into the ground silent-like, an' there was nothin' left to see except moonlight on the graves. I drank my coffee an' waited for 'em to come out again but they didn't so I hit the hay an' slept sound all night.

On my way to the Injun village next day I tried to think up a ghost yarn to fool the Injuns with, but I ain't much of a hand at makin' up stories - my imagination's too poor. I was afraid I might stretch it too far an' then they'd know I was foolin' 'em. An' there'd be no use tellin' about the sound that made itself, An' its vibrations causin' the bones to dance. You can't

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Jack Brown of Burns Lake with a 22 lb. rainbow taken in Ootsa Lake.

Northern Fish Derbies

This year FishDerbies are being held in two of Northern B.C.'s most noted sport fishing centres. The Boards of Trade of both Fort St. James and Burns Lake, B.C. are offering handsome trophies and useful awards for the biggest Rainbows caught in the system of lakes and waterways in their respective districts.

At Fort St. James, all fish entered must be caught north of the Stuart River Bridge—in Stuart, Trembluer or Tatchie Lakes or the interconnecting lakes, rivers or streams. These lakes have long been noted for their superlative fishing, and have attracted sportsmen from all over the continent including such notables as former president Herbert Hoover, the noted author Courtney Riley Cooper and countless others.....while Harold Cleland (proprietor of Quesnel's Cariboo Hotel) who maintains a lodge on upper Stuart Lake, swears that he throws back all rainbow trout under SEVEN pounds.

Last years prize-winning fish from this district was caught by Mrs. J. Cowell of Prince George, a guest at Harold Smith's fishing camp. (Culchoe-Nu Lodge) weight 15 lbs. 3 oz.

At Burns Lake, gateway to famed Tweedsmuir Park, equally noted as a mecca of fishermen in quest of 'big rainbows', prize-winning fish



Beautiful sandy beaches like this make camping out a pleasure on Stuart Lake.



H. Shallard and party with an afternoon's catch at Stuart Lake



There's nice fishing on the Tetachuk River (Tweedsmuir Park)

must be taken somewhere between Babine Lake to the north and Eutsuk Lake (in Tweedsmuir Park) to the south. In between these two are Tchesinkut, Francois, Ootsa, Whitesail and many lesser lakes - in which rainbow have been caught up to 18 pounds and char to 42 pounds.

Closing date of both fishing derbys is September 30th. Prize for the biggest rainbow caught in the Burns Lake event - the latest type glass fishing rod. At Fort St. James the successful contestant will receive a suitable trophy (of as yet undecided design) depicting his prowess (or luck) with rod and reel.

Regardless of which of the two districts produces the biggest official rainbow- the other, will undoubtedly lay claim to bigger ones... "that got away."

In our October issue we will endeavour to publish photos of the prize-winners and near-prize winners from both districts.



Two hours fishing at Ootsa



One of the ones that Never got away (Stuart Lake)



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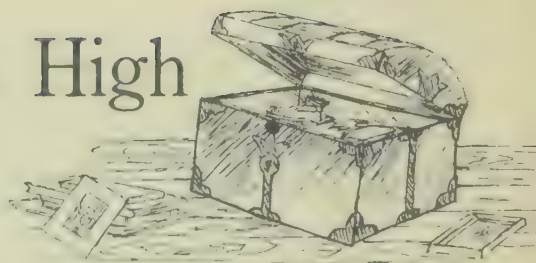
The Ghosts of Cassiar - concluded.

talk science to an Injun. So I just said nothin', collected my ten bucks an' shoved off.

When I come back next spring the Injuns said I'd scared all the ghosts away. I shore had not, for I'd never even seen 'em. An' until I do no-one can convince me there are any. But I found a pocket of gold in a small creek near the bone-yard, so camped out in the same clump of trees while I was pannin' it out. For two weeks I stayed there, but I never saw or heard a thing 'ceptin' a peculiar buzzin' in my head - sort of a noise which makes itself - but which is nothin' to worry about - being as how most old-time prospectors complain o' the same thing.

The Archives of Mr. High

by BETTY BAILEY



Jimmy and I still refer to that summer as the Summer of the Queer Visitors; and the old Prospector, Mr. High, and the manner of his coming and going, made up the queerest episode of all.

I was cleaning my living room that afternoon, and had the front door obstructed by furniture, so that the first part of our acquaintance was purely verbal. "Is Mr. Edwards at home, Sister?" he asked, in reply to my, "Who is there?" through the key-hole.

"Mr. Edwards? He doesn't live here any more. Did you....."

"Well now, Sister, I sure did want to see him. You see, I stayed here twenty years ago, camped right by this here creek, matter of fact, and I left a trunk....."

"Oh would you please come around to the back door?" I said, abandoning my mop.

The man who met me at the other door was past middle age, very well dressed in a rather old fashioned way; he was a keen looking character with a ferocious white moustache--and he reminded me so much of a sherrif pictured in a western story magazine that I almost expected him to display some stars on his lapel, or where-ever a sherrif does display them.

By this time our dog Pongee, a temperamental beast, on occasion mainly temper, made his appearance and greeted the stranger ferociously. I called him off at once, but--"Don't you worry," said my visitor. "Bad dogs don't worry me, Sister. Why, when I was a young fellow, down south, that was, we used to hunt bear, and gosh say, Sister, the fierce dogs we had! I could fight any of them off-- the **tougher they were the better**.....Say I remember one time some of us boys---"Pongee re-emerged at this time and gave me an opportunity to interrupt. "lie down boy," I said--"You wanted to see Mr. Edwards, but he doesn't live here now. He's in Victoria. We bought the farm from him a year ago."

"Putting on style in the city now is he? Well, well. I didn't expect but he'd be here. You see I camped here, twenty years ago, right out there by them buildings--prospected all along this creek-- what I was looking for to-day was an old trunk I left with Mr. Edwards. Not anything much you know, just some keepsakes. Noticed anything like that around?"

"There are some old things in the back of the garage," I remembered, thinking of my bread, almost ready for the pans, and of Junior Likely to waken at any moment. "We'll have a look."

But the trunk was not in the garage. It must have been in the blacksmith shop that I had seen it. There was nothing to do but look for it to there. The prospector was not in the least concerned by the delay. He was hunting bears, coons and what have you in the southern states and only interrupted himself when he noticed a rifle just inside the shop. "Action jammed," he remarked, examining it. "Sister, I remember once being on the spot with a rifle like that--happened up here on the Blackwater--Old Jim Barnes and I--perhaps you know Jim--?"

"No," I said frantically, thinking of Junior "I think I see your trunk-- over here in the corner."

"Sure, Sister, that's it, sure enough! Be glad to get a look at some of those old things. Like to show you--Just take one handle, Sister and we'll carry it over to the house."

I was too surprised to do anything but comply. I remembered that he had come on foot from the bus, probably, so of course would not be taking his trunk with him.

Well, we deposited it on the kitchen floor. By this time Junior was awake and demanding attention in no uncertain terms. Between getting him some lunch and rushing bread into pans I was well occupied for the next while. The prospector needed no entertainment. He had disinterred several photos. "Just lay them here for you to look at when you're ready, Sister." and was reading over some old letters, some aloud and some to himself. I gathered that the ones he refrained from reading aloud were love letters.

My bread disposed of, I took a few minutes to look at the photos.

"My first wife, Sister, and her mother-- Best looker south of the line, if I do say it-- but her mother--the trouble she could make! Now, once happened when we were living in--"

I began to prepare supper: I shall not try to recount the domestic history of the prospector, Mr. High, which was only interrupted when Jimmy, my husband, came in-- and then the theme changed to mining and so continued

throughout supper.

"Sure was a relief finding that trunk safe," he said once, putting three spoonfuls of sugar into his third cup of tea. Mentally I said good-bye to the chocolate cake I had hoped to make for Sunday and kicked myself for filling the bowl so liberally.

After supper he made his departure, first showing Jimmy the photos he had shown me and placing the trunk carefully in a corner of the kitchen. "Be back to-morrow Sister--like to show you some more of the things."

True to his word, he was back just before dinner the next day, in time to tell me a few yarns interspersed with some letters while I was dishing up. This time forarmed as I thought and with my hopes pinned on some cinnamon rolls, I had left only a little sugar in the bowl. But my rolls were not to be. "Trouble you for a little sugar, Sister?" said he, interrupting an account of the episode concerning the jammed rifle and a bear on the Blackwater Trail.

"You people from across the line should get ration books," I said pointedly. He regarded me for a moment somewhat reproachfully, I thought, for interrupting his train of thought and turned back to Jimmy and his story.

When dinner was over I hustled Junior off for his nap and announced my intention to pick off the strawberries. I should have liked to wash up first, but I was not in the mood to explore any more archives. I thought Mr. High might betake himself off to town, but I was mistaken.

"Why, I'll just give you a hand with your berries, Sister," he offered, "No trouble at all. Two can pick faster than one."

But one could eat faster, almost, than two could pick, I found out to my sorrow, even when accompanied by an endless succession of gold strike stories. I tried a broad hint: "I always like to get these picked off when Junior is asleep," I remarked.. "He eats up all the profit if he's out here." But this libel of poor Junior drew only another look of faint reproach. **In another half hour I had waxed desperate.**

"I think I'll stop now and run into town with these," I said. I would have to make another trip with the rest of the berries later, and Junior would protest at being waked from his nap, but it was worth trying. "You can ride in with us," I said sweetly, "It will save you the walk."

My idea was a good one as far as it went I parked the truck by the grocery store, delivered my berries and had the satisfaction as I walked up to the post office of seeing the Prospector on the piazza of the hotel, evidently deep in conversation with some of the perennial hangers-on there.

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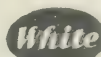


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I took Junior into a cafe for an ice-cream, circled the block, avoiding the hotel, and made for the truck, with the idea of losing no time in leaving town. As I said, my idea had been a good one, as far as it went. The prospector was sitting in the truck, smiling affably.

"Been on the look-out for you, Sister," he said. "Couldn't locate the man I wanted-- expect he'll be around to-morrow. Guess I'll come along out and finish up the patch for you--might as well be useful as well as ornamental." He winked wickedly. "Besides I'd like to show you some more photos and such----"

So we looked at photos. By this time we had exhausted the wives--there were three-- and were down to various in-laws, cousins and immoratas.

To-night however, when the dishes were washed, he produced some legal documents commemorating business deals involving fabulous sums. There were more pictures and letters, he explained, but Jimmy would be more interested in these papers. It was late when he left, promising to be back the next afternoon, when he expected to have the car he planned to borrow.

"For gosh sakes, Jimmy," I wailed, "Can't you do something? I'm sure he's not one-third of the way to the bottom of that trunk, and when the rest of the strawberries are going to get picked I don't know--not to mention raspberries and currants! Besides there is not more than half a cup of sugar in the house, and every coupon used! If I persuade him to get a ration book he'll take it as an invitation to board here for the rest of the summer."

"Well," mused easy going Jimmy, "Don't know what you can do about it. He's a harmless old geeser after all."

"You're the man of the house!" I stormed, "Can't you tell him to take his trunk and go to-- Wells, or wherever he's supposed to be headed for?"

"Now," countered Jimmy with a grin, "If I did that he would think I suspected him of trying to alienate your affections."

"If you think that is funny, I don't care for your sense of humour!" I snapped. But I saw that no help was forthcoming from that quarter.

Right after breakfast, the next morning I hurriedly stacked the dishes and made a trip to the attic. I brought down some old portfolios, albums, and magazines, mostly relics of teaching days, and spread them out on the living room table.

"What in the world are you doing with that junk?" asked Jimmy, putting his head in at the door, a little later.

"Oh, I've often thought I'd begin a scrap-

book for Junior," I replied, truthfully; I had not confided my plan to my husband. There are times when his conscience runs to a different gear than mine and I had reached the point where I felt I could brook no interference on merely ethical grounds. Besides it was more than likely that my scheme would be a dismal failure.

I finished in time to get together a hasty lunch. It was nearly supper time when the prospector appeared, this time driving the old car he had borrowed. I fancied he had been indulging rather freely in the beer parlor, but he talked as fluently as ever, if a little unsteadily, all throughout supper.

He amused himself by chuckling over a roll of letters while I washed up, but was ready for me as soon as I hung up the dish pan.

Things worked out beyond my rosier expectations. We first looked at two mothers-in-law who somehow had got separated from the respective wives; and then he drew out a faded folder tied with an equally faded blue ribbon, "Wonder who this is now?" he pondered "Oh, I bet this is Tansy Rose-- ever heard of her?-- suppose not; you're latecomers. Best looking girl in the Cariboo she was, I'm telling you----. Folks had a hotel in Ridgetown at one time-- and Tansy was the belle of that town and maybe a dozen more; great girl for having her picture taken, Tansy was--had one every time a travellin' picture taker came along--shucks, every fellow for miles around used to want one--awful particular tho' Tansy was, didn't give one away except to someone pretty special." He winked wickedly at Jimmy, engrossed in a newspaper; and then dramatically untying the ribbon, he opened the folder, displaying a buxom and grinning negress.

"Why," I said hastily, trying to keep my eyes from his face, which was a study, "She is lovely isn't she?-- a little dark, perhaps, but-- then-----!"

"Shucks," said the prospector, "Don't know who that is-- isn't the one I thought. This next one must be Tansy now. So long since I been in here----" He drew out another photo folder and hastily began to unfasten it. I tried to catch Jimmy's eye but he had begun a crossword puzzle. When I looked back over the Prospector's shoulder he was regarding a portrait of a stout Indian belle holding a **papoöse**.

"Oh my," I exclaimed, "You did go in for the dark ones, didn't you, Mr. High? And they say gentlemen prefer blondes! You must have some more. Jimmy, do come and see----"

"Shucks," said the prospector, hastily dropping the offending photos into the trunk "Nothing but some old rubbish left in here

now, not worth looking at. Guess if I want to catch the bus in the morning I better be gettin' into town. Losing too much sleep lately. Good-bye to you ,Sister-----."

Without waiting for help he picked up the trunk and made for the door. That was the last we saw of Mr. High.

"What in the world-----?" said Jimmy after he had gone. "I caught a glimpse of those last two photos-- weren't they a couple of old pictures that we found lying around here when we moved in----?"

"He just remembered a previous engagement," I said. "Would you like a cup of tea and a nice **piece** of -----bread and butter?"



"Rather a stubborn case, isn't it?"

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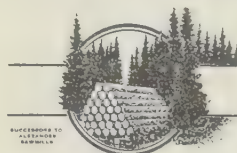
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Game Depletion

In The Lillooet

by A.W.A. PHAIR
Lillooet, British Columbia



Having read "Paradox Of The Cougar" by Lee Straight in Outdoor Canada, I feel that I might add a little that might be of interest.

It seems that cougars have been on Vancouver Island for a long, long time. I remember them there fifty years ago, but somehow or other the deer there seem to survive, giving the deer there have seemed to survive, giving the impression that the cougar does not concentrate on deer in his depredations.

It is a different story here, around Lillooet. I saw my first cougar track here on Cayoosh Creek about 1908, and a few were trapped the following year. They moved up the river following the deer. In a few years the deer began to decrease in number. The mountain goats too were almost wiped out. And following them, the mountain sheep.

The Game Department did not realize what was going on. Most people thought that the cougar had always been around Lillooet. Our best guides, especially W.G.C.Manson, the only professional guide here at the time, and myself - warned the Department, but nothing was done. A cougar hunter from Washington wanted to come in and clean them out, but couldn't owing to the restrictions on 'outsiders' at that time.

Some farmers began killing cougars, as the game had become so scarce that cougars were living off the farmers' stock. A few trappers got dogs, but the wily cougars soon knew they were safe if they made for the rocky bluffs.

Few have hunted cougar here lately, and the the game, as result, is about gone. the game , as a result, is about gone. The cougars are again starving and this will reduce their numbers somewhat.

When the first whites came here, I am told, there were not many deer, for wolves were in great numbers everywhere. But when the wolves, were killed off the deer population increased rapidly until in 1895 I know from personal observation, they were here in bands of hundreds. One guide claimed to have seen as many as ten thousand in a single ten mile ride along the Fraser River at French Bar.

Although the Chilcotin Indians killed thousands of deer at that time, they still kept increasing - but a few years later decreased suddenly, some probably from disease, but I feel that cougars were more responsible. At Moha, another winter range, deer could be seen in herds of several hundred. Here the Indians used to make up drives in the spring and kill perhaps a hundred deer at a time - but such drives seemed to have little or no effect on the number of deer in the area. It was long after these drives ceased that the deer died out.

Cayoosh Creek, a country that is no longer hunted, used to have a great many deer, but these disappeared with the coming of the cougar about 35 years ago. It seems the cougar moved in from the coast and both mountain goat and deer were virtually exterminated. Cougar were later reported from further up the Fraser where they killed thousands of deer, goat and sheep.

There are still too many cougar here and no one is hunting them systematically. Several years ago "Cougar Parker" made a business of hunting cougar and in two years killed 50 of them. Trappers and others accounted for another 50 during the same period. The game wardens get very few.

At Moha a few are killed each fall by Jas. Carmichael, and a few more are killed in other districts. This past winter a few were killed by E.Osterland of Moha(10 or more) and at D'Arcy five or six more were shot, but no one is anywhere about making a real business of cougar hunting.

Big game hunters were attracted to the Lillooet country in about 1885 when Admiral Seymour(stationed at Esquimalt) hunted here with Arthur Martley. Sheep were then running in bands of hundreds, and I believe 13 heads were secured on one trip. One was a record head for these parts.

Mountain sheep in the Lillooet country are not as large as they are in the Rockies. The best head I ever saw here ran about 17" with a 42" curl, though some 18" heads have been reported. In late years a 16" with a 38" curl

was about the best I ever measured, and I have the measurements of all the heads taken out by tourists since 1898.

Up until the first world war Lillooet was famous as a big game country, but as the cougars increased in number and the game was killed off by them, hunters went further north into, the Cassiar and Cariboo country.

Most of our famous old guides died off, and no one took their places. W.G.C.Manson became world-famous. His father was a Hudson's Bay Co. factor - Manson Creek (in the Omineca) being named after him. Wm. was born at Fort St. James and when ten years old was hunting grizzlies on the Peace River. Other famous local guides were Tyhee Jimmy, Frank Gott, Jack James, Major Churchill, and Indian Chief Henry Schwartz. In later years many people, such as J. Copeland, Bert Phair, Bert Williams and others, took up guiding as a side-line to their regulars their regular endeavours.

Much of the Lillooet district is still virgin country but if game does not increase it is finished as a hunting country. Even if the predators are brought under control and the game is thereby greatly increased, it will never become again the hunter's paradise that it used to be because cattlemen and sheepmen now own and are grazing their herds on what at one time used to be our best hunting grounds.

If the cougar could be exterminated it is quite likely that our big game population would increase very rapidly - especially in that part of the country which is seldom if ever visited by hunters.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Few people today can speak with more authority on the game situation in the Lillooet than Mr. Phair, who was born there, and who has lived there for more than three-score years. Having spent a great deal of that time in the woods as a prospector and trapper, and at all times been keenly interested in big game, we feel that his observations recorded here tell the true story of what has happened to big game in the Lillooet country.



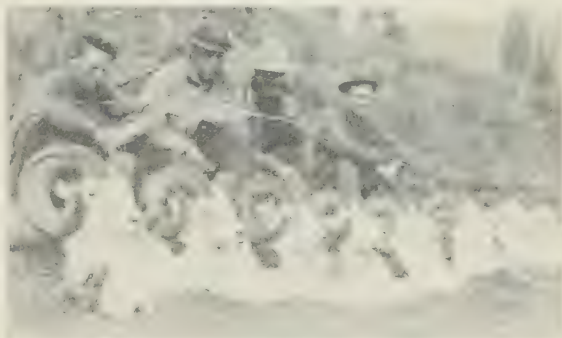
Mountain goat in the Lillooet district.



No more game will fall prey to this 'cat' shot near Prince George. -Wally West p. 40

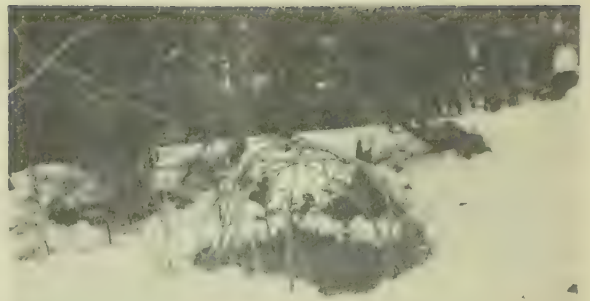


Early day native guide (in Lillooet)



Luxury In The Bush

by C.G. STEFFENS



TAKE A INDIAN "SWEAT BATH" AND
KEEP FROM GOING BALD - MAYBE

THE LATE NOVEMBER morning was cold, cold even for this part of the British Columbia interior. The heavy white frost from the previous evening still showed plainly in shaded places where the feeble rays of the late-rising sun had not yet reached. Along where the water lay in quiet pools and at the narrow outlet of the lake where a thin column of smoke showed the location of the Indian camp, a thin sheet of ice had formed, reaching out from the shore and had formed, reaching out from shore and ending in long fingery projections.

My duck-hunting friend George, who had just returned from an early walk along the creek in quest of a few wing shots at the weary mallards just down from the north, rubbed his hands as he stood over the glowing cook stove in the ranch-house kitchen.

"Clear enough morning," he remarked, "but still pretty chilly when you haven't gotten accustomed to the cold weather."

"And do I feel like a sissy!" he went on. "As I was coming up the creek to the point where it leaves the lake, I saw an Indian naked as the day he was born, run out from the willows where their camp is, and take a header right into that freezing water. He didn't stay in long but he went right under, head and all. Then he ran up the bank and disappeared among the willows. Now if that fellow doesn't get pneumonia or a bad cold at the least, he's the toughest individual I've ever come across."

I assured my friend he need have no qualms concerning the Indians welfare, and under the same conditions, he himself or any other white man in normal health could stand a complete immersion in the icy water cold November morning, just as well as the Indian. But as I proceeded to explain to George the likelihood of the Indian having just come out of a "sweat bath" and was in no greater danger from the exposure than if he had stepped into a tepid shower, I realized just how few white people right on this continent have any idea that the Indians of the North West practise and consider vapor bathing one of the most important factors

Indian sweat house with cover removed,
showing fir bough floor covering.

of their domestic routine. Being acquainted with the habits of the Indians of British Columbia since childhood, I had taken it for granted that most people of the United States and Canada had at least some idea of this native custom. Yet here was I, having to go into detail in explaining to George, who by the way is a native of British Columbia, this Indian custom—to use their own term when translated into English, "sweat bathing."

Basically in principle, the Indian "sweat bath" is identically the same as the Finnish Sauna or steam bath that Mr. Aleko Lilius described so interestingly under the title of "Sauna, the Finnish Steam Bath," which appeared in the March 1940 issue of *Physical Culture*. The essential difference being in arrangement only. The permanency of Finnish home life has naturally brought about a greater elaboration of the "Sauna" or Finnish bath house. The Indian on the other hand, who was compelled, till within the past fifty or sixty years, to keep moving his home continually to keep in contact with his food supply, resorted to a type of bath house of the most temporary construction.

Usually of individual size, it is mainly made of material that is always available near streams or lakes—that is, pliant willow branches. These are anchored into the earth at each end, forming a series of hoops in circular formation, and then fastened at the points where they cross, by grass or shreds of bark, giving the construction an appearance of an inverted basket of about three feet in height and about four feet in diameter. This was then covered in primitive times with animal skin robes, and at the present time with either canvas or blankets. To facilitate crawling in and out, part of the covering is left loose, the other parts being held firmly to the earth by stones or sods. The floor space of the sweat house is usually covered with fresh grass or fir boughs, except for a space near the outlet. Here a hollow is scooped out, large enough to hold about twenty pounds of stones.

The usual procedure in preparing the "sweat bath" is to start a fire first, into which a number of stones are placed, and then to proceed with the construction of the house; so that by the time the house is completed the stones are sufficiently heated. When all is ready the heated stones are placed in the hollow just within the doorway of the sweat house. The bather after removing all clothing, takes a small vessel of water with him and disappears inside. The loose flap that has been used for an entrance is then fastened as snugly as possible.

In a few minutes the heated stones bring the temperature of the interior of the sweat house to an almost suffocating degree. The bather then begins to sprinkle the heated stones with water, being very careful not to throw on too much at one time, for the restricted size of the sweat house makes scalding by steam, an ever present hazard.

The period of time usually spent in the sweat house depends largely on how long the stones stay sufficiently hot to throw off steam when sprinkled. To further facilitate body cleansing the present day Indian uses soap lavishly, which makes a wonderful lather when applied to the bather's hot, perspiring skin.

The final phase of the "sweat bath", like the Finnish Sauna is the sudden immersion, regardless of the temperature of the water, for speaking from personal experience, contact with the coldest water, or even a roll in the snow, gives



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Finest-Full Course Meals-Good Food
Quick Service -----Burns Lake, B.C.


Mrs. C.G. Steffens demonstrates relative
size of sweat house interior.

not the slightest physical shock to the body. However, I would not vouch for favorable results if one stayed exposed to the icy water or chill air for more than a moment or two. Usually in winter weather the bather is rubbed down and back into his clothing in a few minutes.

Like the Finns, the Indians formerly had great faith in the rejuvenating magic powers of the "sweat bath", and it is not many years ago that I heard an old Indian tell how he fixed his own leg when it got broken, by intensive use of the "sweat bath". But even discounting the magic and healing qualities of the sweat bath, one can not help observing one characteristic of the Indian that might in some way be connected with the habitual use of his own particular type of sweat house, that is: Indians of the North West very seldom if ever, lose the hair off their heads. I know a number of them personally who are eighty or ninety years of age, whose hair is as dense as any of the younger men. The confined space of the sweat house compells the bather to sit in an upright position with his head almost touching the top. This is naturally the hottest point in the interior. Possibly then, this intense sweating and cleansing of the scalp, goes far in stimulating the growth of the hair. However, this is only a theory of my own and so far as I know there is nothing definite to substantiate it. Apart from this though, one can not overlook the importance of this bathing custom in the domestic routine of a primitive people living the year round in these latitudes, where without some special method, bathing would be confined to the summer months only.

One of the most common errors strangers make in appraising the Indian of the North West, is the suggestion of personal uncleanness. Often one hears the term, "smell like an Indian." I admit the term is not without justification, and that some of them have a strange odor; but I object to its use disparagingly, for it is nothing more than the smell

of wood smoke and buckskin, the latter, a material they still use a great deal of; and is no indication of personal neglect. It might also be interesting to most of us too, to learn just what the Indian thinks at times of our personal habits.

Some light on this, comes from a story I once heard, of a trader operating in the far north of British Columbia, where white men were still an oddity to the scattered tribes inhabiting that almost unknown region. This trader, I would assume was like most of us in his habits, and probably enjoyed his bath as well as any, when a warm bathroom was available, but since such luxuries are not characteristic of the "trail", simply did without a bath for weeks on end. While visiting with an Indian family for the first time on one of his rounds, he noticed a small boy who kept noticeably out of his way and when compelled to come near wept bitterly.

When about to leave the trader remarked the child was still afraid of him. Imagine his surprise when he was told by the father, it was not fear that ailed the little boy, but the smell of the white man was unbearable to him.

That vapor bathing is highly beneficial to the human body may be assumed by its long continued use by man, dating back almost to the beginning of co

beginning of civilization. We read of the vapor baths practised in the harem of King Cambyes of Persia as far back as 525 B.C., of the elaborate Turkish bath, and of the Finnish bath so long ago, that people were still in the stage when such a performance seemed nothing short of being in league with the Devil Himself. And at the present time there are quite a number of nationally advertised devices for vapor-bathing in the home.

However, a summary of all the material we have on the subject will show that the North-West Indian in following his own method, which seems to be about the most primitive type known, is getting results as favorable as anything modern ingenuity can devise.

So when you are touring British Columbia on your next vacation, and you happen to hear a remark about the "squalor" of an Indian village, consider the possibility that any one of its inhabitants might have, that morning gone through a personal cleansing process that could not be improved on in the most modern bathroom in America.



A roll in the snow takes the place of a cold plunge.

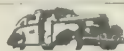
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The North Country's Newest and Most Modern Hotel

Nowhere in Western Canada, we believe, but certainly nowhere in Central or Northern B.C. can any small town boast of such a hotel as that being brought to completion by the Burns Lake Hotel Company at Burns Lake, B.C.

Built at a cost of over\$200,000.00, the new hotel, named after famed Tweedsmuir Park to the south (to which the town is the Gateway) is a structure of pleasing modern design, finished in stucco and occupying half a block of space on the south side of the town's main business street, and fills a long-felt need of the district.

Even before the old 'Omineca', the town's one and only old hotel burned down two years ago and left the town without means of catering to the casual travelling public and the hundreds of hunters and fishermen who annually passed through enroute to Tweedsmuir Park, it was felt that the town required something better than the dilapidated and poorly designed structure which tourists and commercial travellers alike had learned to avoid.

Little did anyone dream however that the building which was to replace the old firetrap (which had coils of rope in every room for fire escape purposes) would be such an imposing establishment with such comparatively luxurious appointments.

Judged by standards of comfort and convenience offered the wayfarer in the larger hotels of the coast cities, the Tweedsmuir lacks nothing.....The entrance is made through large double plate-glass doors into a spacious lobby tastefully furnished and decorated.

"The entrance MUST have an air of warmth and hospitality,"insisted the management, when the finishing touches were being made. And it does.....

On the ground floor, apart from the lobby, are located a large modern cafeteria and lunch room, barber shop, beauty parlour, sample room, reading room, lounge, offices, and in a wing on one side the beverage rooms.

With 29 guest rooms(12 with bath - and 20 baths in the whole building) noise on the upper floors has been reduced to a minimum by em-

McRae Hotel

SMITHERS

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Running Hot and Cold Water

Martin Peterson and Gus Mogdan, Proprietors

Decker Lake Hardware-A complete line
Hardware & Men's Wear-Decker Lake B.C



playing rugs, from wall to wall, in all rooms and hallways. The beds are the best that money can buy, Hollywood style with padded leatherette headpieces, with additional room furnishings to suit. New style plumbing fixtures bring a flood of hot or cold water to all rooms with only a very light half-turn of the new streamlined taps (they are something new in plumbing fixtures).

All in all, there is little left to be desired by the traveller who stops at the 'Tweedsmuir'. Said manager T.F. Kelway, who has travelled widely and had a great deal of experience in hotel management (and who was an unwilling guest of Emperor Hirohito during the last war), "There are certain recognized basic requirements, or 'essentials' which every hotel must be able to provide for the traveller before it can be termed a first-class hotel. Some of these are ample lighting, recognized minimum room size, first class beds, ample hot and cold water, shaving mirror and lights, electric-shaver plug-ins, bed lamps, soundproofing plus a myriad of less obvious conveniences such as waste baskets etc."... "New York's 1,000-room Waldorf Astoria differs in 'basic comfort' from Jonesville's 20-room establishment only in size, and in the degree to which it has provided or failed to provide the basic essentials. These basic requirements can be provided with stark simplicity and economy, or sheer luxury.... The directors of the Burns Lake Hotel Co. endeavored to provide to provide accommodation well beyond the minimum requirements - but not beyond the price range of the average tourist or traveller.

Certain it is that Burns Lake today has a hotel which need take a back seat to no other in the north country. The investors, nearly every one of them local businessmen or district residents, including Jack Brown (Burns Lake Hardware), Mark Connelly (former M.L.A. for Omineca), B. Bickle (formerly of Tweedsmuir Motors), T.F. Kelway of Victoria and others - have certainly shown their faith in the future of Burns Lake and district and in the tourist drawing value of Tweedsmuir park.

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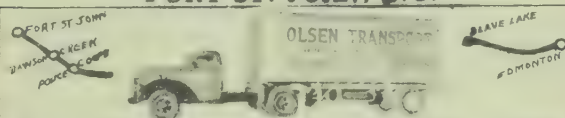
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SAM MONTGOMERY

- And His

\$2,000.00 Pan of Gold -



by Jean Grady

How many people now-a-days look upon a pan
that yields 56 1/4 ounces of gold?

About forty-seven years ago, a number of
miners had this experience beside a shaft on
the subsequently famous Point Claim situated
near Stanley on a back channel of Lightning
Creek.

Sam Montgomery, an old sage of the country
was taken with the 'bug' that was probably the
start of the whole thing. He had long suspected
that there must be a bench at the upper end
of the idle Point Claim. The company working
it previously, had drifted out all the deep
ground and abandoned it. As time went on, and
Sam thought about it more and more, he became
even more suspecting, and then sounded his
belief orally. Fireside cronies wintering
belief orally. Fireside cronies wintering around
the town hooted at him, others smiled condes-
cendingly.

This must have happened once too often, for
although Sam was called an old man, in his
heart he was just seventy years young. So he
decided to sink the shaft himself, for then he
would be satisfied. His long hours on a suppos-
edly fruitless goal began.

His claim was the old Spruce, the west line
of which came close to the east line of the Point.

Bucket by bucket, the dirt came out of the
shaft, slowly--oh so very slowly. Tediously
Sam would take his bucket down a ladder, fill
it, and hoist it up. As the hole got deeper, each
journey became longer--took a greater toll
of his courage. All along the way, little flags
of faith unfurled and there was an uncanny
knowing in old Sam's heart that everything
was going to be alright....if he could just
make it down to bedrock.

Fourteen feet shallower than the deepest
part of the channel, Sam struck the bench.
And he didn't get a prospect. Could it be that
they who had told him he would find nothing
were right? Then he remembered some men
whom he believed might help him, for the work
was heavy now, but the hope was still there.

The men were willing. Working beside old
Sam, in his indomitable certainty, were Fred
Tregillus, George Rankin, Harry Jones, ex-M.
L.A. and Joe Spratt.

"In a few sets from the shaft," says Mr.

Tregillus, "we got onto good gold and in a few months took out not quite \$20,000.00."

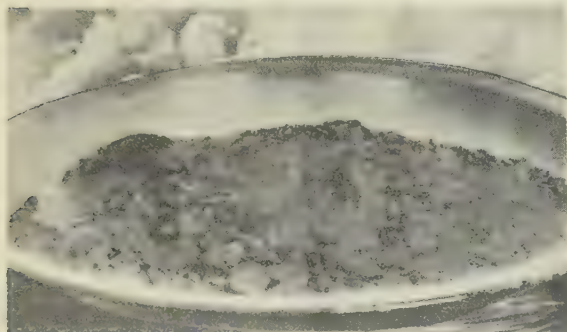
The dream of an old man had proven right. And the pan that made the ground famous? Well, when Sam Montgomery struck it rich on his Spruce Claim it caused a minor upheaval. Dave Shaw, who had fallen heir to the Point Claim at his father's death, was not in the country. For Bill Fry and Andrew Kelly, the mounties, located him around Dawson. The former two men made him an offer of \$500. for his interest in the Point Claim, which he accepted. And almost as quickly as one can bet a shaft was begun.

It was up this shaft that a pan of dirt came one day on a bucket of gravel. Bill Fry, who was working at the bottom of the shaft shouted to the top men to get old-timer Jim Innes, the foreman, to wash the pan that he had just taken out of a crevice.


A great many jobs were probably forsaken during the interlude. As many faces probably became tense and moved silently closer as Jim Innes washed the pan in the dump-box--washed away the dirt and silt that slowly but deftly, left the gold behind.

"The gold was very coarse," remembered Fred Tregillus, who watched the drama that day. There was 56 1/4 ounces in the pan!

The output of the Point Claim totalled about twice that of the Spruce placer...and all because old Sam Montgomery pursued his suspicions right down to bedrock.



Sam Montgomery's pan of gold



Don't Forget

'The More You Use My Power

The Less It Costs Per Hour'

- Reddy Kilowatt

CANADIAN UTILITIES LIMITED

Fort St. John
British Columbia

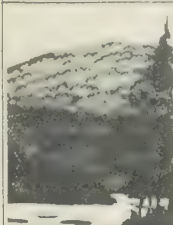
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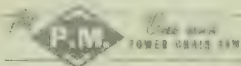
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Rocher De Boule Mountain - with Hazelton, B.C.
in the foreground - scene of B.C.'s latest Ur-
anium strike

Will This Be B.C.'s 'Eldorado'?

Many years ago Gilbert Labine, a cobalt prospector, (and they are a special breed of prospector-interested virtually in only the one metal) was flying out for the winter from north of the arctic circle in the Mackenzie River basin. The terrain was rugged and almost devoid of vegetation, but as there were practically no mountains in the area, the plane was flying rather low and the veteran prospector was scanning the country below closely, looking for promising geological formations to record and investigate later.

While skirting the edge of Great Bear Lake he spotted excellent indications of 'cobalt bloom' - the common name given to a complex cobalt ore noted for its brilliant and vari-colored hues. He noted the location on the map he always carried with him and while yet 'on his way out' began making plans for returning to the spot the following year.

The following spring, before the ice was out of the lake, he returned with his partner.... The complete story is a long one...his partner went snowblind, among other disasters. He did find cobalt-but not rich enough to make it pay at that distance from market. He also found silver....and, he made the most important mineral discovery of the century---large deposits of pitchblend, the ore from which uranium is derived.

His discovery grew into the famous Eldorado Mine, chief source of raw material for the Western Democracies atomic energy developments - upon which so much has been written that we needn't say more here.

What is extremely interesting and important, about the above brief outline, however, is the fact that both SILVER and COBALT ores were found in the immediate vicinity of what is now the world's largest single source of uranium.

Whether it is a mere mineralogical coincidence or whether these minerals commonly occur together such as the silver, lead, zinc combination, we believe no-one could say - for too little uranium ores have been found anywhere in the world for minerologists to have formed definite conclusions either way. However that may be left for minerologists to decide at some distant date.

In the meantime, bearing in mind the above possible mineralogical associations, British Columbia's latest Uranium strike shows more promise than anything discovered in the west since the Eldorado was staked in 1928. The new discovery was made in the old New Hazelton Gold Cobalt Mines, located on Rocher De Boule mountain (overlooking Hazelton - see pic.) which property was mined extensively for its cobalt silver, gold content from 1916 to 1928.

The ore from this mine was a rather complex one, requiring smelting. High shipping costs and high smelting charges eventually forced the closure of the mine.

Not long ago George Royals, of Prince Rupert, one of our modern prospectors who carries a Geiger Counter everywhere he goes, got positive results when going over the old workings. Immediately he staked the ground, and sent samples to the Dept. of Mines at Victoria.

An unusual and almost humorous sidelight to the discovery of uranium on Rocher De Boule is that upon receipt of the samples along with information as to where they were secured, and after making their own tests, Dept. of Mines officials took samples of ore from the old New Hazelton Gold Cobalt Mines which they have had on display ever since the mine went into production in 1916, placed them under the Geiger Counter - and, yes - the Counter 'ticked' - showing the presence of Uranium.

The property is now being thoroughly examined by both Government and private mining engineers with very promising results, though it is yet too early to say whether it will become another Eldorado.

However, the property is in the silver, lead, gold belt of the Bulkley Valley. Not fifteen miles away the Silver Standard Mine is back in production, while literally hundreds of silver-lead prospects exist within a radius of a hundred miles - all of which should now be ripe for examination for their possible uranium content.

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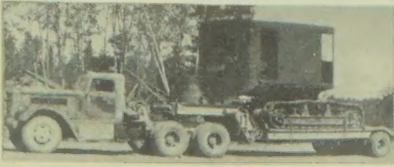
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On the night of July 19th, 1949, over 600 residents of Quesnel and people from far and wide turned out to help the Johnston brothers, Cliff, and George celebrate. The occasion was the opening of the new wing and complete modernization of their garage. A dance was held in the new addition, and though it has a floor area greater than any hall in Quesnel it was jam-packed with well-wishers who danced and made merry until the wee small hours of the morning.

G.M.C.'s A.W. Eastwood and Jack Rolf; Imperial Oil's Dudley Foster and Geo. Small; Shell Oil's Vic Morgan were present, as well as scores of friends from neighboring towns. From Smithers, Wiggs O'Neill; from Williams Lake, Joe Gillis, Jack Cade, Bob Blair, Doug. Huston, Larry Gray and more; from Prince George, Alec Moffat, G.B. Williams, ---most of them old-timers who have known the brothers for years and watched their progress and growth for years and watched their progress and growth through the years as they serviced the needs of an expanding community.

For the occasion did more than mark the opening of an addition to the garage, and their 25th year as G.M.C. dealers for Cariboo - it also marked their 40th year since starting in business running a livery stable in the old log barn shown in the above inset. The Cariboo-born brothers have come a long way in 40 years - and so has the Cariboo. When the 'boys', Cliff and George, started in business the quickest way of moving freight was as shown below - today it is by C.P.A., and in the interim Quesnel has grown from 300 to 3,000 population.



Johnston Brothers Freight - Barkerville bound, 1910



14 Pound Coho Salmon landed by Ronnie Hunt
in front of Telkwa Hotel - August 1948.

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